

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 07939 241805Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

AID-05 DHA-02 EB-07 OMB-01 /082 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5863

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 7939

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, CI

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL "CRONISTA" REACTION TO "NY TIMES" ARTICLE ON
US-CHILE RELATIONS

1. GOC OFFICIAL DAILY "CRONISTA" NOV 20 OFFERED LENGTHY ARTICLE
CAPTIONED "THERE IS NO COOLING - RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND
THE US MAINTAIN THEIR TRADITIONAL LEVEL." ARTICLE IS REBUTTAL
TO DAVID BINDER ARTICLE OF NOV 19 WHICH CLAIMS US-CHILE TIES ARE
STRAINED. ARTICLE CITES SOURCE CLOSE TO THE JUNTA (PRESUMABLY
SPOKESMAN FEDERICO WILLOUGHBY) AS DISCOUNTING "NY TIMES" CLAIM
THAT US-CHILEAN RELATIONS HAVE DETERIORATED BECAUSE OF THE HUMAN
RIGHTS PROBLEM.

2. SOURCE REPORTEDLY DISCARDED IDEA OF WORSENING, SAID USG
APPRECIATED GOC EFFORTS TO SOLVE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND
POLITICAL PROBLEMS, AND CITED THREE RECENT ACTS OF GOC WHICH
HAVE ALLEGEDLY IMPROVED CHILE'S HUMAN RIGHTS POSTURE. SPOKESMAN
ALSO CITED CHILEAN PAYMENT OF ITS FOREIGN DEBTS (IN SPITE OF THE
LOW PRICE OF COPPER), PARTICULARLY ITS COMPENSATION TO FOREIGN
(I.E., US) COMPANIES, RECENT VISIT OF ANACONDA MANAGEMENT TO
CHILE, AND RENEWED INTEREST OF GROUP IN INVESTING IN CHILE AS
EVIDENCE OF FAVORABLE GOC POSITION. FINAL PARAGRAPH MENTIONS
"NY TIMES" ARTICLE ON "SUPPOSED DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS"
AND LACK OF COMMENT BY STATE DEPARTMENT.

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THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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